

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00
NEAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 SSM-01 ACDA-10 SP-02 L-01
PRS-01 /051 W
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P R 181420Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2385
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 4002

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MOPS, PBOR, JO, IS, XF
SUBJECT: CROWN PRINCE HASSAN AT THE JORDAN RIVER

1. WHEN I MET WITH HASSAN JULY 16 HE TOLD ME
THAT HE PLANNED EARLY MORNING WALK ALONG EAST BANK
OF JORDAN RIVER FROM ABOUT THE CONFLUENCE OF
THE YARMOUK (OLD BRIDGE BELOW THE ROTHENBERG
PROJECT) TO THE DAMIYA (PRINCE MOHAMED) BRIDGE.
HIS PURPOSE FOR THE 28 KILOMETER EXCURSION ON
FOOT WAS TO SEE ON THE GROUND WHAT THE JORDANIAN
MILITARY WERE CALLING "UNUSUAL ACTIVITIES"
ON THE ISRAELI-HELD SIDE. PART OF TRIP COVERED
AREAS OF POST 1948 ISRAEL AND PART WAS
OPPOSITE OCCUPIED WEST BANK.

2. HASSAN SAID JULY 18 AREA WAS CALM AND TRANQUIL
WITH FARMERS WORKING RIGHT UP TO THE RIVER ON BOTH
SIDES. NO SIGNS OF MILITARY ACTIVITY PRESENT AND
WHILE ISRAELIS HAD PROTESTED CUTTING OF A TREE ON
JORDANIAN SIDE WHICH THREATENED TO BLOCK AN
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IRRIGATION CANAL ON THEIRS, HASSAN TOLD HIS PEOPLE
THAT THIS WAS PERFECTLY UNDERSTANDABLE AND NO
REASON FOR COMPLAINT OR WORRY. HASSAN
PARTY FOLLOWED BY ISRAELI SOLDIERS ON THEIR SIDE
MOST OF THE WAY.

3. CROWN PRINCE NOTED THAT MILITARY SEEM TO BE

PROMOTE TO READING ERRONEOUS CONCLUSIONS ABOUT
PLACES THEY NEVER SEE. PARTY MOVED ON FOOT IN AIRLESS LOWER
PLAIN OF JORDAN IN 105 DEGREE HEAT COVERING ALL BUT A
SMALL AREA WHICH IS MINED ON JORDAN SIDE.
CASUALTIES, IN ADDITION TO JORDANIAN MILITARY
ASSUMPTIONS RELAYED TO HASSAN AND MENTIONED ABOVE, WERE SEVERAL
OVERWEIGHT COLONELS AND A GROUP OF LESSER OFFICERS WHO
COULD NOT STAND THE GRUELING PACE SET BY CROWN PRINCE.
PICKERING

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NNN

Message Attributes

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TAGS: MOPS, PBOR, JO, IS, XF, (HASSAN, PRINCE)
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